

Kurzweil 3000-firefly – Overview

Revised: March 2015

What is firefly by Kurzweil?

The *firefly* online application brings digital, text-based content and literacy tools to anyone who requires or desires assistance with literacy skills. It's available anytime and anywhere an Internet connection exists, and from any computer running a Windows or Macintosh operating system. *firefly* supports any Web browser, and reads Kurzweil Educational Systems KES as well as other file formats.

firefly requires minimal system administration and provides easy to use user management tools.

School administrators have the ability to upload, store and efficiently distribute curriculum material from a single repository, the Universal Library, to schools across the district while teachers can easily post class work files from a central location for students to retrieve. And **Upload A File, Open File from Your Computer, and Open File from Bookshare** lets any user upload and open material for their own use, or to share with others.

Once you receive your login information, you can access *firefly* from <https://fireflybykurzweil.com>. Use *firefly* from anywhere and from any computer—the *firefly* preferences you set follow you from computer to computer.

Minimum System Requirements

Internet Connection.

Internet Browser (latest version recommended):

- Windows: Internet Explorer 7.0 – 11.0, Firefox 3.0 – 31.0, Chrome.
- Macintosh: Firefox 3.0 -31 or Safari 3.0 – 7.0.
- Cookies must be enabled.

Additional Software (latest version suggested):

- Adobe Flash 10.0 – 14.0.
- Adobe Reader (optional).

Suggested Hardware:

- Speakers or earphones for audible books.

Minimum Bandwidth:

- 512 kbps for each active *firefly* session.

Network Connectivity Firewalls, proxy servers, and content filters must all permit access:

- HTTP (TCP port 80).
- HTTP and HTTPS (TCP port 443).

firefly Features

The literacy and learning supports for academic success you need, you'll find in *firefly*.

The Universal Library

- For students, the curriculum material you need for your class work is in a central location. You also have a place to store your private files and a place where you can share files with others.
- For teachers and school administrators, the Universal Library offers a central repository from which you can distribute curriculum across schools in the district as well as class files to individual students.
- Shared material comes with *firefly*: the Classic Literature collection of nearly 2,000 electronic texts from classics to legal and religious texts; and samples from The Cambium Learning Group's series, LANGUAGE!, Learning A-Z and Passport Reading Journeys.
- Now you can Upload and Open any Kurzweil Educational Systems KES file as well as TXT, DOC, DOCX, EPUB, RTF, BKS, and PDF files to share with other users. For more information, see the topic, *Using the Universal Library*.

Reading and Literacy Tools and Options

- Dual highlighting while reading.
- Reading Voice, Speed, Unit, and Mode options.
- Dictionary lookup.
- Translations.

Roaming Preferences

- Set your *firefly* preferences and they follow you from computer to computer.

User Account Management

From the **Users** option on the *firefly My Account* menu, the site coordinator can use his/her login information provided by Cambium Learning Customer Service to create users for the organization. For more information on User Account Management, see the topic, *User and License Management*.

For more information about using your *firefly* account management, see the topic, *My Account*.